

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 052472

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN, CVIS, UR, US

SUBJECT: CONSULAR TALKS - THIRD ROUND

REF; MOSCOW 2638

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH EMBASSY'S APPROACH AND PROPOSED
NON-PAPER, AND OFFERS FOLLOWING COMMENTS AND MINOR AMEND-
MENTS:

2. TRANSIT VISAS: EMBASSY'S CITATION OF THE LONGSTANDING
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VISAS HORSE PROCEDURE IS A GOOD POINT. YOU MAY OFFER 24-
HOUR PROCESSING OF VISA APPLICATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE AND
CONTINUOUS TRANSIT (I.E., JUST FOR CHANGE OF PLANES SINCE
AEROFLOT HAS NO THROUGH FLIGHTS)THROUGH DULLES OR JFK
WHEN ALL THE INFORMATION ABOUT ARRIVAL AND ONWARD FLIGHT
IS PROVIDED AS IN CURRENT VISAS HORSE PROCEDURES. YOU
SHOULD MAKE CLEAR ORALLY OR IN WHATEVER WAY YOU CONSIDER

APPROPRIATE THAT A) THERE WILL BE PROBLEM CASES WHICH WILL TAKE LONGER (PER PARA 6 REFTTEL); B) OFFER ONLY PERTAINS TO ISSUANCE IN MOSCOW, NOT OTHER POSTS; C) THE 24-HOURS MUST INCLUDE A WORKING DAY, NOT RPT NOT JUST 24-HOURS DURING A MOSCOW WEEKEND, AND D) THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY LIMITATIONS ON HOW MANY CASES EMBASSY CAN PROCESS IN A SINGLE DAY -- I.E., YOU COULD NOT GRANT C-1 VISAS TO ENTIRE BOLSHOI BALLET IN ONE DAY.

3. EXIT VISAS FOR EXCHANGE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS: AS A COMPROMISE WITH US, SUGGEST DELETION FROM PARA C IN THE NON-PAPER THE WORDS "IN RETURN", AND STARTING THE NEXT SENTENCE "THE EMBASSY REQUESTS..." AS A NEW PARAGRAPH. THAT WOULD MAINTAIN THE ASSOCIATION OF THE TWO BUT AVOID COMPLETE LINKAGE.

4. VISAS FOR STATE COMMITTEE HEADS: IN RESPONSE TO YOUR QUESTION IN PARA 2 REFTTEL, WE COULD CERTAINLY CURTAIL TREATING STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN AS MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS IF WE WISHED. FOR THAT MATTER, IF WE WISHED WE COULD UNDER OUR VISA REGULATIONS DISCONTINUE ISSUANCE OF CATEGORY A VISAS TO DEPUTY MINISTERS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE SO MANY MINISTRIES THEY CANNOT BE EQUATED WITH USG DEPARTMENTS.

5. COMMERCIAL VISITORS: THERE IS A GOOD POSSIBILITY US MAY BEGIN ADMITTING HOLDERS OF B-1 VISAS FOR ONE-YEAR STAYS
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IN NEAR FUTURE. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED. IN INTERIM, SUGGEST YOU DELETE FROM NON-PAPER THE LAST TWO SENTENCES OF PARAGRAPH A.

6. ISSUANCE OF CATEGORY A VISAS: TO MAKE CLEAR WE WILL NOT RPT NOT AUTOMATICALLY GRANT CATEGORY A VISAS TO SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTIES, WE SUGGEST YOU INCLUDE THEM IN THE PARENTHESES IN THE MIDDLE OF PARAGRAPH F OF THE NON-PAPER.
VANCE

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